

ARTISTS OF FAME

Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra to Visit Topeka.

Known All Over Country for Their Splendid Work.

IN SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

Four Famous Soloists Come With the Orchestra.

Concert Master Has Had His Contract Renewed.

More than usual interest centers about the Spring Music Festival at the Auditorium, April 17 and 18, for this annual event will bring to Topeka a musical organization—the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra—and individuals who are favorites with the music lovers.

There will be Emil Oberhofer, the conductor, whose following increases every time he comes with his celebrated orchestra. Next in importance is the concert master, and he, too, is a favorite here.

Richard Czerwonky is this man, the artist, the violinist, and he speaks volumes for the estimate placed upon his services by the management of the orchestra by the fact that at the end of this, his seventh season, his contract has been renewed. It is also due to Mr. Czerwonky to say that he has persistently refused the most flattering offers from other organizations because of his admiration for Mr. Oberhofer as a conductor and his pride in the achievements of the Minneapolis orchestra. Mr. Czerwonky's popularity with Minneapolis concertgoers is further attested by the number of his appearances with the orchestra during the home season—not less than ten. During this time he has played a variety of compositions seldom found in the repertoire of any but the great solo violinists who devote their entire time to concert work alone.

Four soloists of exceptional ability come with the orchestra. Louis Gravenre, baritone, is the discovery of the year. The Christian Science Monitor, after the Boston engagement of the orchestra, said:

"This singer will prove one of the major discoveries of the recent year. As a vocalist he is far ahead of other baritones in the concert field as to seem a representative of a different art altogether from those."

Praise Leonora Allen. Critics of the press from all parts of the United States are unanimous in stating that one of the most brilliant sopranos on the American concert stage today is Miss Leonora Allen, one of the quartette of soloists that accompany the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra on its spring tour this year.

The Winnipeg Tribune says: "Her voice is of considerable power and as clear as a bell in tone. She phrases her passages with the skill only to be acquired by long years of training in order to excel."

Jean Vincent Cooper, who won the \$3,000 scholarship offered by a prominent New York woman in 1913 for "the most beautiful American voice," is the contralto.

The New York World in its issue of Oct. 31, 1914, said, in speaking of her concert there the night before: "On the program was a contralto, Jean Vincent Cooper, whom it would be a pleasure to hear often. This singer has an attractive personality and stage presence and sings with style and musical understanding. Her voice is agreeable to listen to, is even in its quality and she uses it with skill."

Impressed as a Spy. Albert Lindquist, the popular young Swedish-American tenor, went abroad just a year ago with the intention of studying for opera.

It was while he was in Paris that war was declared and in the excitement of the first few days following the announcement he did not escape some rather trying experiences. It was his linguistic abilities that got him into trouble. (Mr. Lindquist speaks several languages—English, Swedish, German, French and Italian.) On this occasion he was overheard speaking German to some one and at once was arrested as a German spy and taken to prison.

His explanations, French to his captors would not help, but finally they agreed to call the American ambassador, to whom Mr. Lindquist had presented his credentials a few days before. The gentleman came and in a few minutes Mr. Lindquist was released, the same day starting for London, which city he reached after a trying journey.

Kugenda. "But you believe in heredity?" "Yes, indeed." "That's how I came by all my money," Judge.

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THE STORY OF TWINE

TWINE IS HIGHER

Farmers Will Pay an Increase of 50 Per Cent.

Will Cost the State \$500,000 More This Year.

THIS ON STATE PRISON OUTPUT

It Is but One-Sixth of the Amount Used.

Price Advances From \$5.83 to \$7.35 per Cwt.

Farmers in Kansas will pay \$500,000 more this year for binding twine manufactured at the state prison plant at Lansing, according to an announcement made at that institution by E. C. Landis, treasurer of the twine plant factory. And the product manufactured at Lansing is only one-sixth of all used in the state. In short, the Kansas farmer must pay 50 per cent more for his binding twine than he did last year.

Throughout the eastern section of Kansas the high price of twine is one of the important topics of conversation. The western farmer has discarded his binder and now uses the headers that require no twine so he smiles at the "boys" around Topeka, Atchison and Leavenworth.

Where Blame Is Placed. Explanation of the reason for an increase in price emanates from the Lansing institution and blame is placed upon a New Orleans syndicate which it is alleged has made arrangements with the governor of Yucatan whereby both parties can take down a handsome sum. The governor of Yucatan, whose the sisal plant grows in great profusion, appointed a sisal regulation committee.

All sisal must be marketed through the regulation committee. In this way, it is asserted, the monopoly has brought the price of twine up from \$5.82 a hundred to \$7.35. This is a reason why prison labor at Jefferson City no longer competes with free labor.

This Year's Output. At Lansing the output of twine this year has been announced as 3,500,000 pounds, or about a million above the average. Men are working eight hours a day on the stringy fiber, turning out 12,000 pounds a day. 2,400 balls, or five balls weighing five pounds each every minute. Ninety men are working in a modern L-shaped brick building with a wooden roof for 2½ cents a day, and already have turned out \$180,000 in what visitors are told is the most valuable product of the prison. Yet it is not high in the estimate.

Sisal is rope fiber. Fray out a small, well formed rope to the length of four or five feet and you have sisal balls, or five balls weighing five pounds each every minute. Ninety men are working in a modern L-shaped brick building with a wooden roof for 2½ cents a day, and already have turned out \$180,000 in what visitors are told is the most valuable product of the prison. Yet it is not high in the estimate.

The sisal balls are opened by convicts and started in on their journey through the twine plant. The first series of carding and combing machines are called breakers. The sisal is mixed with oil and runs through rollers and carding machines where steel prongs, looking like nails, running on an endless apron, comb out the sisal into endless fiber masses of sisal. One of the strings of fiber looks like a small rope coming out.

Convicts stand at the end of these machines and feed in the sisal. As the sisal runs through ten of these machines it becomes more and more pliable. Finally it is run down into a smaller string of fiber—just enough to make a string of twine. Ninety men are on the move, serving the farmers of Kansas. There is a waste of lint, oily enough to be inflammable and the product, costing \$7.35 a hundred pounds, is sold for \$9.25 at Lansing in car load lots.

The Final Process. But the final process of spinning. The prison has a 60-spindle plant. The strands of twine are sent through these six machines, each with two looms. All that a layman sees is sisal twisted into twine. The looms run in one direction and twist the twine into the finished strands. This factory is full of small wheels and bearings and is as noisy as one can imagine. Every machine of the 120 sends a shrill whirr with which the sound that makes conversation impossible.

Seven ball bearing machines spin the balls. A trough behind these machines carries away the ball, each with the end neatly tucked away for the farmer to find. The men at these balling machines are experts and each is armed with a long knife, sharp on one edge. These knives are often unconsciously used for other purposes. Such a murderous knife, once inside the cell house or mess hall, would mean danger to convicts or guards.

Once the balls are rolled into the receiver, they are sacked. Cuttings are made into the ropes that bind the sacks. Children on the prison farm take these ropes in high glee, but find that they unwind. These ropes are made from waste cuttings of twine and represent about the same thing as the sisal in the packing house.

Robbery in City Jail. Negro Frisks the Pockets of a Fellow Prisoner.

Oliver Burns, a negro, did a better job "frisking a plain drunk" than the police did when the drunk was arrested but all his skill brought him a charge of larceny from the person. J. W. Wilson of 120 Monroe street, a stock buyer, was arrested for being drunk and before they threw him into the "bull pen" at the station the police searched him for valuables. Wilson was put into the pen and soon after Rob Miller, A. C. Bartel and Spencer Abbott heard a terrific battle in progress. Investigation developed that after Wilson was turned in among the prisoners Oliver Burns had searched him and found a pocket book containing \$8 between two pairs of trousers Wilson was wearing. Wilson objected when Burns gave him back only the purse and \$1 and the fight started. The police found \$4 of the money on Burns but apparently the other three dollars had been hidden in the jail.

WOMAN'S AIM POOR. Socialist Leader in Reichstag Target But Both Shots Miss.

London, April 15.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says travelers arriving at The Hague from Berlin report that a woman fired two shots from a revolver at Dr. Karl Liebknecht while the socialist member of the reichstag was walking in the street. Both shots missed. The assailant, the report continues, was arrested.

THREE OF THE SOLOISTS WITH THE MINNEAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

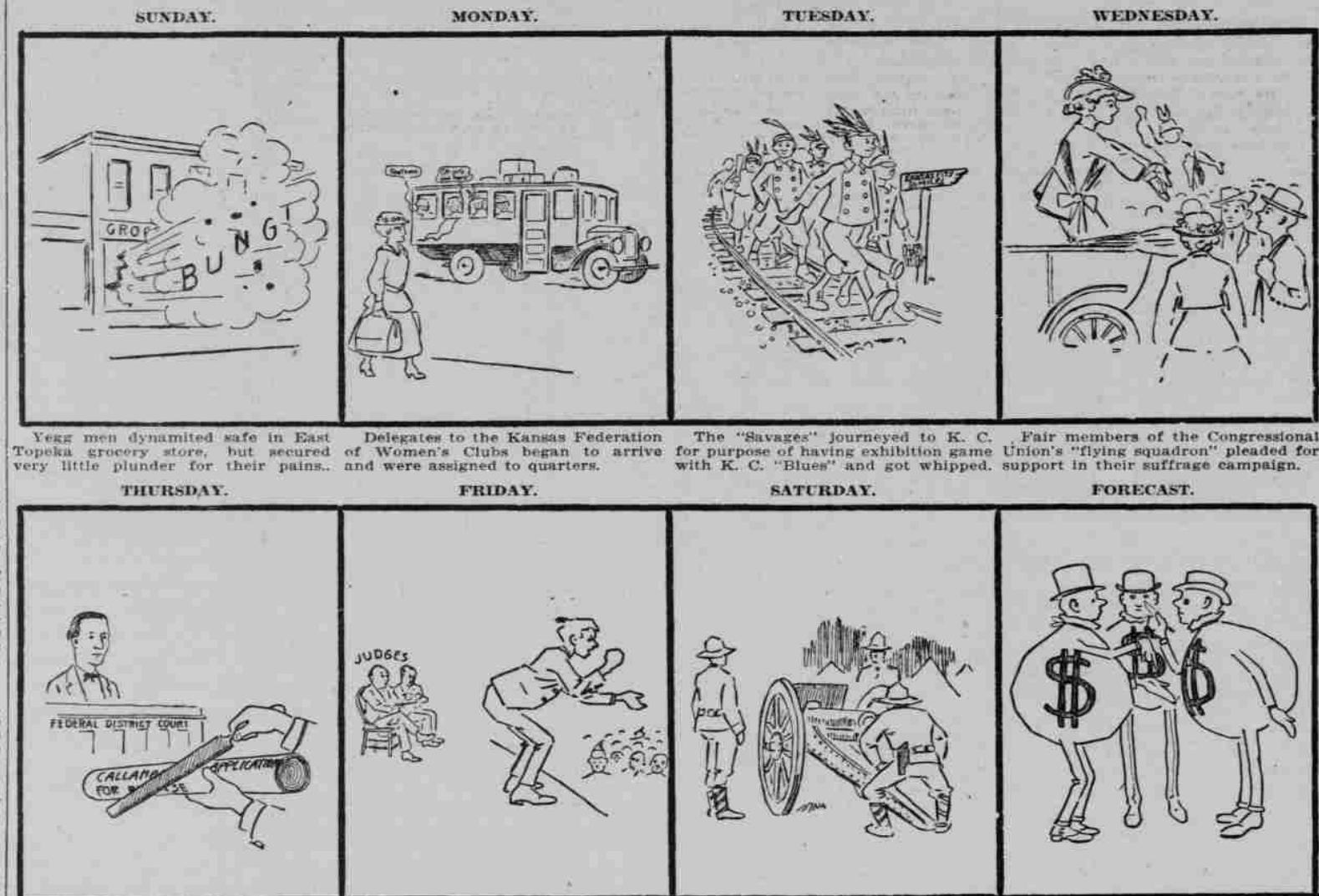
Louis Gravenre, Baritone

Jean Vincent Cooper, Contralto

Albert Lindquist, Tenor

Local News Events of the Past Week

As Depicted By Bolmar



Yegg men dynamited safe in East Topeka grocery store, but secured very little plunder for their pains.

Delegates to the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs began to arrive and were assigned to quarters.

The "Savages" journeyed to K. C. for purpose of having exhibition game with K. C. "Blues" and got whipped.

Fair members of the Congressional Union's "flying squadron" pleaded for support in their suffrage campaign.

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